Mr. P. Damodara Menon.—They are under the control of the Revenue Department. But the Village Panchayats are, under section 11 of the Village Panchayat Regulation, No. V of 1089, responsible for their preservation intact.

2. No.

3. Regular action under the Land Conservancy Regulation is being taken against persons who encroach upon *porambokes*. If the Member can specify any instance where action has not been taken against persons who encroach upon *porambokes* foot-paths and lanes, action will be taken against the encroachers concerned.

Grazing grounds.

82. Mr. I. E. Ambooken.—(a) Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have come to know that grazing grounds in many places are of no use to the public, as they are not properly maintained, and that they are excessive in extent when considered with the need of the people of each locality;

(b) will the Government be pleased to state whether they have ever considered the matter of assigning the grazing grounds or a portion of it for the benefit of the poor classes; if so, what has been the result of the same?

Mr. P. Damodara Menon.—(a) Government have not received any representation that these sites are of no use to the public. The extent reserved in one particular village may be a little excessive for the needs of that village, but it may not have been exclusively reserved for that village alone.

(b) Grazing grounds are not generally assigned, but in individual cases where, without detriment to the public interests, it is found that a portion of such fields can be leased, Government have done so to the poor.

Mr. I. E. Ambooken.—May I know what will be the extent of these plots of grazing grounds?

President.—Of one block? It may be about one hundred acres.

Mr. P. Damodara Menon.—And sometimes more.

President.—But if you wanted that information, it would have been supplied.

Mr. I. E. Ambooken.—May I know what area will be required approximately for each village?

President.—That is a matter of opinion.

The assignment of lands to the poor.

83. Mr. I. E. Ambooken.—Will the Government be pleased to state an approximate area of land that can be assigned to the poor classes in several taluks of the State, if they are willing to do so?

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